

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

HH
03 C
PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 020489-000500US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On

APR 01 2002

03/27/02

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

Brad J. Loos

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Brian B. Martin et al.

Application No.: 10/087,004

Filed: March 1, 2002

For: SUTURE FASTENERS AND
METHODS OF USE

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37
CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynn M. Thompson
Reg. No. 47,991

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
LMT:bjl

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08B (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **3**

of

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/087,004
Filing Date	March 1, 2002
First Named Inventor	Brian B. Martin et al.
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	020489-000500US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	4,297,749		Davis et al.	11/03/1981	
	BB	4,510,934		Batra	04/16/1985	
	CC	6,099,553		Hart et al.	08/08/2000	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	CD	GB	1598111	✓	Davis et al.	09/16/1981		
	CE	EP	0179562	✓	Fisher et al.	07/12/1989		
	CF	PCT	WO 98/07375		Michler et al.	02/26/1998		
	CG	PCT	WO 92/12690		Love et al.	08/06/1992		

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

PA 3210515 v1

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.
PA 3210515 v1